

# Johann Nicholas and Johann Adam Neu

\* John Friedrich Nye, emigrated from Luxembourg in 1849.

\* Peter Neu, emigrated from Dusseldorf, Germany in 1858 and settled in Barton, Wisconsin.

There were undoubtedly relationships between some of these persons in Germany, though proof is yet to be determined. Almost all of those whose place of origin is known came from a relatively small area within a radius of less than 25 miles (see map on end paper). Though the Neus in south Germany were a long way from the Nyes of Denmark to the north, it is not impossible that they had a common heritage; the meaning of both names is equivalent to the English "new" and there are interesting similarities in the coats of arms of each.

Some correspondents have suggested that they may be related to Marshal Michael Ney, Napoleon's premier General. Although no direct descendants of Marshal Ney are known to have come to America, he may have been related to some of the Neus or Neyes who did. He was born in 1769, son of Peter Ney, a cooper, at Saarlouis on the river Saar in the Palatinate. His native language was German.

The earliest known records of the ancestors of Johan Nicholas and Johan Adam Neu are to be found in the Parishbook of the Kleinich Evangelical Church in Kleinich, a village still extant in the Bernkastel-Kues area near the south bank of the Mosel River eight kilometers southwest of the City of Trarbach. The original Parishbook, which is held in the Staatsarchiv at Koblenz, includes baptisms, marriages and burials for the period 1593-1798 and the first Neu record is that of the family of:

↑  
HANS NEU, the elder  
who married EFEN.

He is listed as a Burger (citizen) of Kleinich and was buried there September 26, 1597. Efen was buried there August 13, 1617.

Children (list may not be complete or order certain):

- \*1 Hans, the younger.
- 2 Elst; m. May 26, 1618 at Kleinich, Catharina Weber, dau. Friederich Weber of Thal Kleinich (Kleinich Valley).
- 3 Barbel, bpt. Jun 24, 1593, at Kleinich.
- 4 Maria, bpt. May 5, 1594, at Kleinich.
- 5 Krehgenn, bpt. Mar 28, 1797, at Kleinich; spons. Nichol Schmidt of Roigert (?), Apollonia, wife of Surgeon Beck and Esta, dau. Hilty Berges.
- 6 Closs; m. Sonna \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 Ebert.

↑  
HANS NEU, the younger (Hans),

married June 26, 1610, at Kleinich MARGARETHA BARTGES, daughter of Clos Bartges, the younger, of the nearby village of Beuren. Hans was a Sponheimsher (Court Magistrate) of Kleinich which was under Sponheim rule.

↑  
There are additional Neu records from the church at Kleinich and other Palatinate towns (available on film) which have yet to be translated and studied. Researchers of Neu family history are encouraged to do so.